

B  
In your reply, please quote  
above initials.

Personal

Treasury of the United States,

Washington, March 19<sup>th</sup>. 1879.

ans/21/

Sir:

I have been informed by banks to which fractional silver has been shipped from the Mint that they have received, occasionally, silver which has been in circulation. Having seen today a letter from you to the Directors of the Mint in regard to the receipt of fractional silver in exchange for minor coin, I desire to say that I do not think that such exchange is contemplated by the law. The effect of it is that you give them minor coin, which is redeemable in United States notes, for fractional silver which is not redeemable in United States notes, thereby virtually redeeming the fractional silver in greenbacks. I have refused to do that at this office, and, with no intention of directing you in the matter, simply write this to you unofficially.

Very respectfully,

Jas. G. Steamer

Hon. A. S. Loudon & Snowden,

Treasurer M. S.

Asst. of the M. S. Mint,

Phil'a. Pa.

~~\$3~~ 72 $\frac{1}{2}$

Treasurer U.S.

(Giffillan)

March 19/79

Personal

Subsidiary silver  
not receivable in part  
of mine coins.

Recd March 20/79

[Abstract:] Subsidiary silver not receivable in payt. for minor coins.

B.

In your reply, please quote above initials.

Personal

Treasury of the United States,  
Washington,  
March 19, 1879

Ans. 3/21

Sir:

I have been informed by banks to which fractional silver has been shipped from the Mint that they have received, occasionally, silver which has been in circulation. Having seen to day a letter from you to the Director of the Mint in regard to the receipt of fractional silver in exchange for minor coin. I desire to say that I do not think that such exchange is contemplated by the law. The effect of it is that you give them minor coin, which is redeemable in United States notes, for fractional silver which is not redeemable in United States notes, thereby virtually redeeming the fractional silver in greenbacks. I have refused to do that at this office, and, with no intention of directing you in the matter, simply write this to you unofficially.

Very respectfully,  
James Gilfillan  
Treasurer U.S.

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden,  
Supt. of the U.S. Mint,  
Phila. Pa.